



Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA) – 20 February, 2017

Overview

Scattered cloud cover will still hang around for the remainder of today with a weak wave passing over the area tonight for a slight chance of snow showers and increased cloud cover over the Grand Mesa. Some low clouds will hug the surface of the Grand Mesa Tuesday morning before lifting as drier air works in Tuesday afternoon. High level cloud cover will increase Tuesday afternoon with mostly dry and breezy conditions with winds gusting up to 30 mph at both sites. Another weak wave passes Tuesday night with another slight chance of snow showers over the Grand Mesa but low confidence in that and thinking most will be increase in low level cloud cover. Wednesday will be drier as a dry southerly flow takes hold ahead of the next storm system, which will give the best chance of precipitation late Wednesday through Friday morning. Otherwise, afternoon flight conditions look great through Wednesday with the exception of low clouds each morning hugging the Grand Mesa and lifting by late morning/early afternoon.

Local Weather Hazards for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.027&lon=-108.02>

Tonight: A slight chance of snow showers between 10pm and 2am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 39. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday Night: A slight chance of rain and snow showers before 7pm, then a chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27. Breezy, with a south southwest wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Wednesday: A chance of snow showers before noon, then a chance of rain and snow showers between noon and 4pm, then a chance of snow showers after 4pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 36. Breezy, with a southwest wind 15 to 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

Wednesday Night: Snow showers likely, mainly after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 18. Southwest wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Thursday: Snow showers. High near 22. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Thursday Night: Snow showers likely, mainly before 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 9. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Friday: A slight chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 19.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 10.

Saturday: A slight chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 24.

Saturday Night: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 13.

Sunday: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 26.

Sunday Night: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14.

Monday: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 25.

Local Weather Hazards for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.905&lon=-107.72>

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22. Breezy, with a west southwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of snow showers after 3pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 34. Breezy, with a southwest wind 15 to 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow showers, mainly before 4am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. Windy, with a southwest wind 30 to 35 mph, with gusts as high as 55 mph. New snow accumulation of less than one inch possible.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of snow showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 28. Windy, with a southwest wind around 35 mph, with gusts as high as 55 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 12. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Thursday: Snow showers likely. Cloudy, with a high near 15. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Thursday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 0.

Friday: A slight chance of snow showers. Partly sunny and cold, with a high near 10.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 4.

Saturday: A slight chance of snow showers after 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 17. Breezy.

Saturday Night: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 9. Breezy.

Sunday: Snow showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 19. Breezy.

Sunday Night: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 9. Breezy.

Monday: A chance of snow showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 20. Breezy.

Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

KGJT 202338

TAFGJT

TAF

KGJT 202338Z 2100/2124 31008KT P6SM SCT150

FM210200 07008KT P6SM BKN120

FM210400 11010KT P6SM BKN120

FM211500 15009KT P6SM SCT150

FM212100 22012KT P6SM BKN200=

Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport

KCOS 202333Z 2100/2124 15015KT P6SM FEW120 SCT240

FM210400 VRB06KT P6SM SCT120

FM210800 35010KT P6SM FEW120

FM211800 24013KT P6SM FEW100 SCT200=

Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport

KAPA 202327Z 2100/2124 34010KT P6SM FEW080 FEW220

FM210100 VRB05KT P6SM FEW080 FEW220

FM210300 20007KT P6SM FEW220

FM211500 25012G21KT P6SM FEW220=

Discussion

Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:

Tuesday: CIGS BKN to OVC 1000 to 2000 ft AGL in the morning with chance of some lower clouds hugging the ground at the mid slopes on the south side in the morning, before lifting by late morning/early afternoon. CIGS becoming scattered 15,000 ft AGL by afternoon with increase and thickening clouds by Tuesday evening lowering to 12,000 ft AGL.

Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:

Tuesday: CIGS SCT to BKN at 12,500 ft to 13,000 ft AGL in the morning and afternoon. Lowering to between 7,000 and 8,000 ft AGL by evening.

Current PIREPS: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/airep/plot?type=turb@ion=SW>

Current SITREPs: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/sigmat>

Current radar:

<http://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=GJX&product=NCR&overlay=11101111&loop=yes>

Current satellite: <http://www.weather.gov/satellite?image=ir#ir>

Hourly weather graphics for the Grand Mesa:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.0326&lon=-108.0245&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

Hourly weather graphics for Senator Beck:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.9247&lon=-107.7179&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

For official pilot briefings, call 1-800-WX-BRIEF

For Further Information

- Contact National Weather Service operations 24 hours a day at 970-256-9463 (unlisted)
- For specific support of emergency response incidents, request a spot forecast by contacting the NWS forecast office by phone or online.
- Online spot forecast request available at:
<http://www.weather.gov/spot/monitor/?lat=39.0293452169889&lon=-109.20392753906285&z=7>

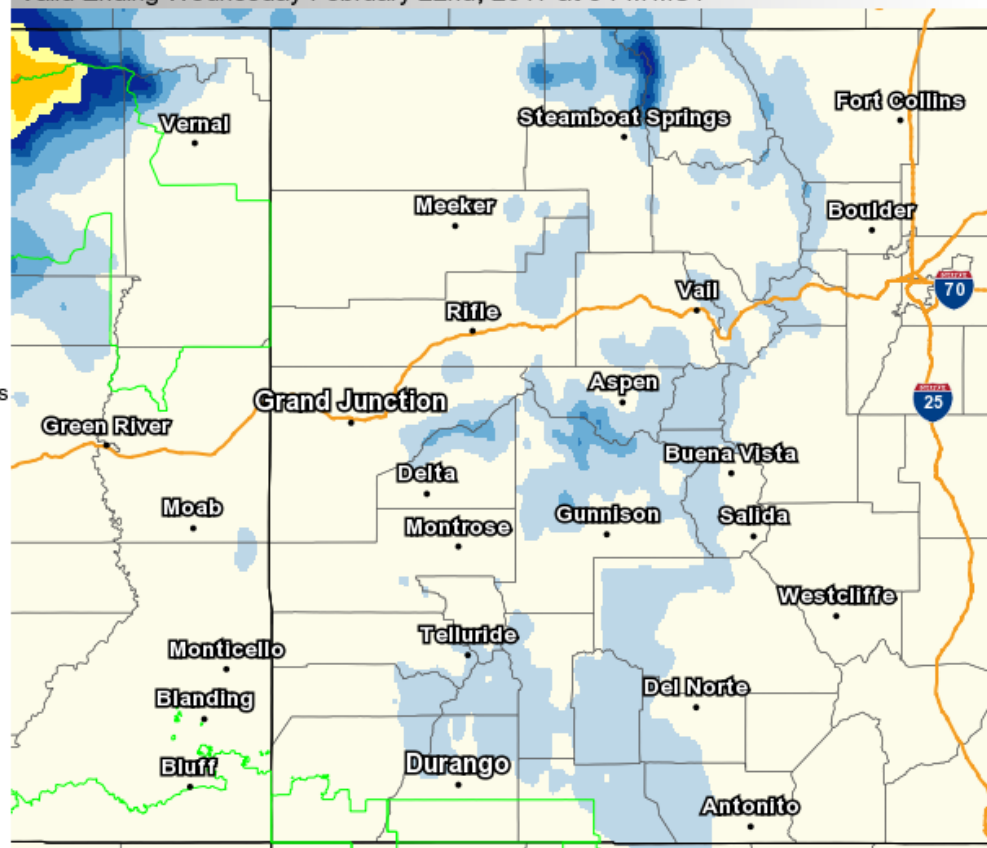
Forecaster: Matthew Aleksa

Forecast Snowfall

National Weather Service

Valid Ending Wednesday February 22nd, 2017 at 5 PM MST

- Less than an inch
- 1 to 2 inches
- 2 to 3 inches
- 3 to 4 inches
- 4 to 6 inches
- 6 to 8 inches
- 8 to 12 inches
- 12 to 18 inches
- 18 to 24 inches
- 24 to 30 inches
- 30 to 36 inches
- Greater than 36 inches



Graphic Created
February 20th, 2017
4:45 PM MST